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COMMITTEE ON
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0510

February 18, 2005

The Honorable George W. Bush
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,


We are writing to ask that you provide Congress with the annual report required by section 1205 of the FY2003 National Defense Authorization Act on a plan to coordinate and integrate U.S. nonproliferation activities. Every year, you were to provide a report to Congress on the implementation of a plan to secure nuclear weapons, material and expertise of the states of the Former Soviet Union. The report for 2003 was due Jan. 31, 2004 and is overdue. Last month, we should have received the report for 2004.

We believe that these reports are a vital tool for Congress to better appreciate and assist the administration in improving U.S. nonproliferation programs. These programs do a vital job in reducing the threat of weapons of mass destruction. Nonetheless they could be improved if informed by a common nonproliferation plan and held to a uniform set of standards. It is in our interest and in those of our allies that we work jointly with Russia to dispose of nuclear weapons and weapons grade material that Russia does not retain in its arsenal as well as assist Russia in downsizing its nuclear complex. You have discussed the danger, a number of times, of terrorists getting access to a nuclear weapon or nuclear technology. The plan was required so that U.S. nonproliferation programs that focus on that danger are directed in the most effective manner.

Furthermore, as the last portion of the report's mandate indicates, Congress needs to know if you have any recommendations that you consider appropriate regarding modifications to law or regulations, or pertaining to the organization of any Federal department or agency, in order to improve the effectiveness of any programs carried in the implementation of the plan.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,


Ellen O. Tauscher
Member of Congress


Ike Skelton
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